

No. 656,427.

Patented Aug. 21, 1900.

J. T. SHAW.  
FELLER FOR SEWING MACHINES.

(Application filed Dec. 4, 1899.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

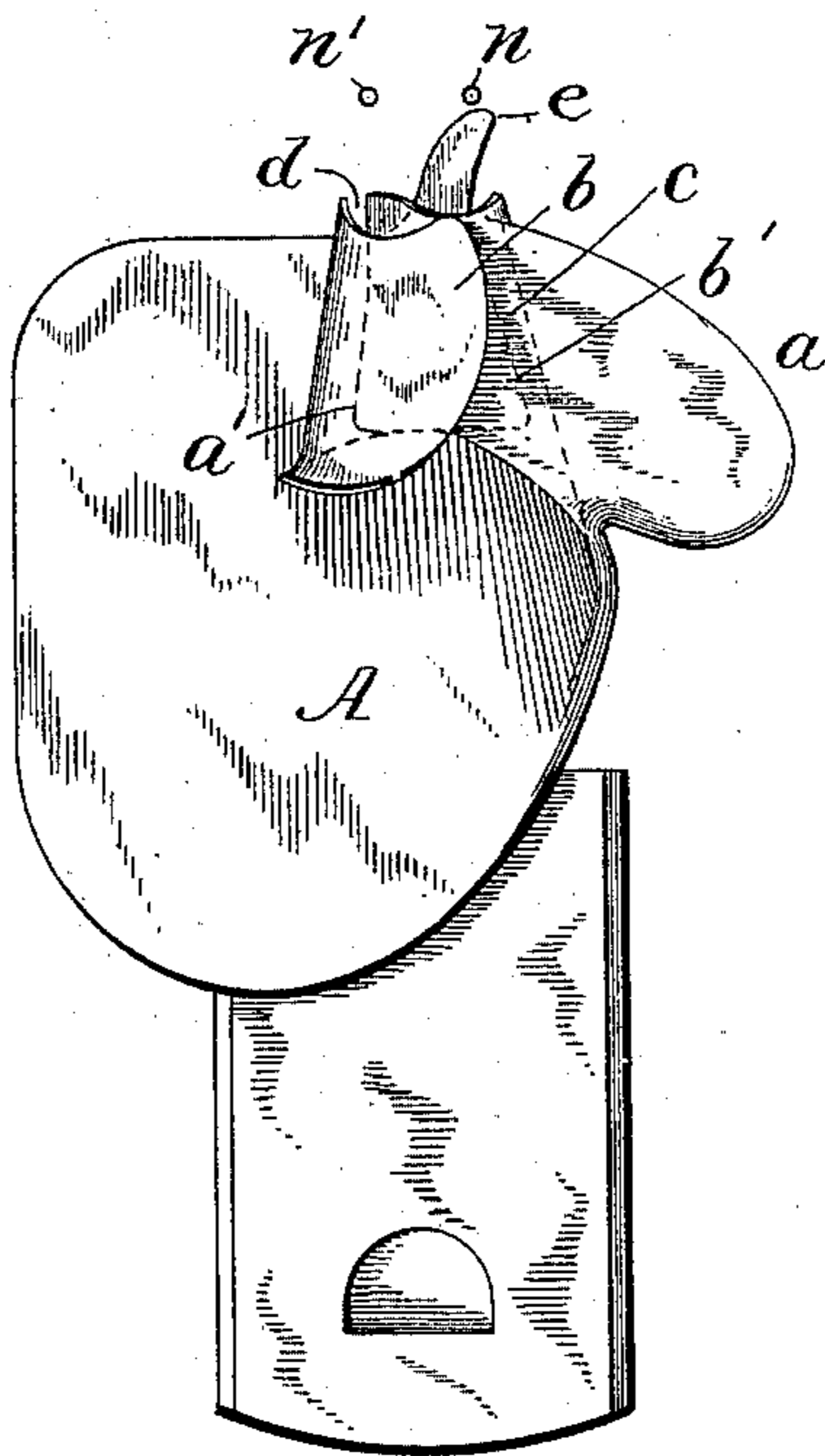


Fig. 2.

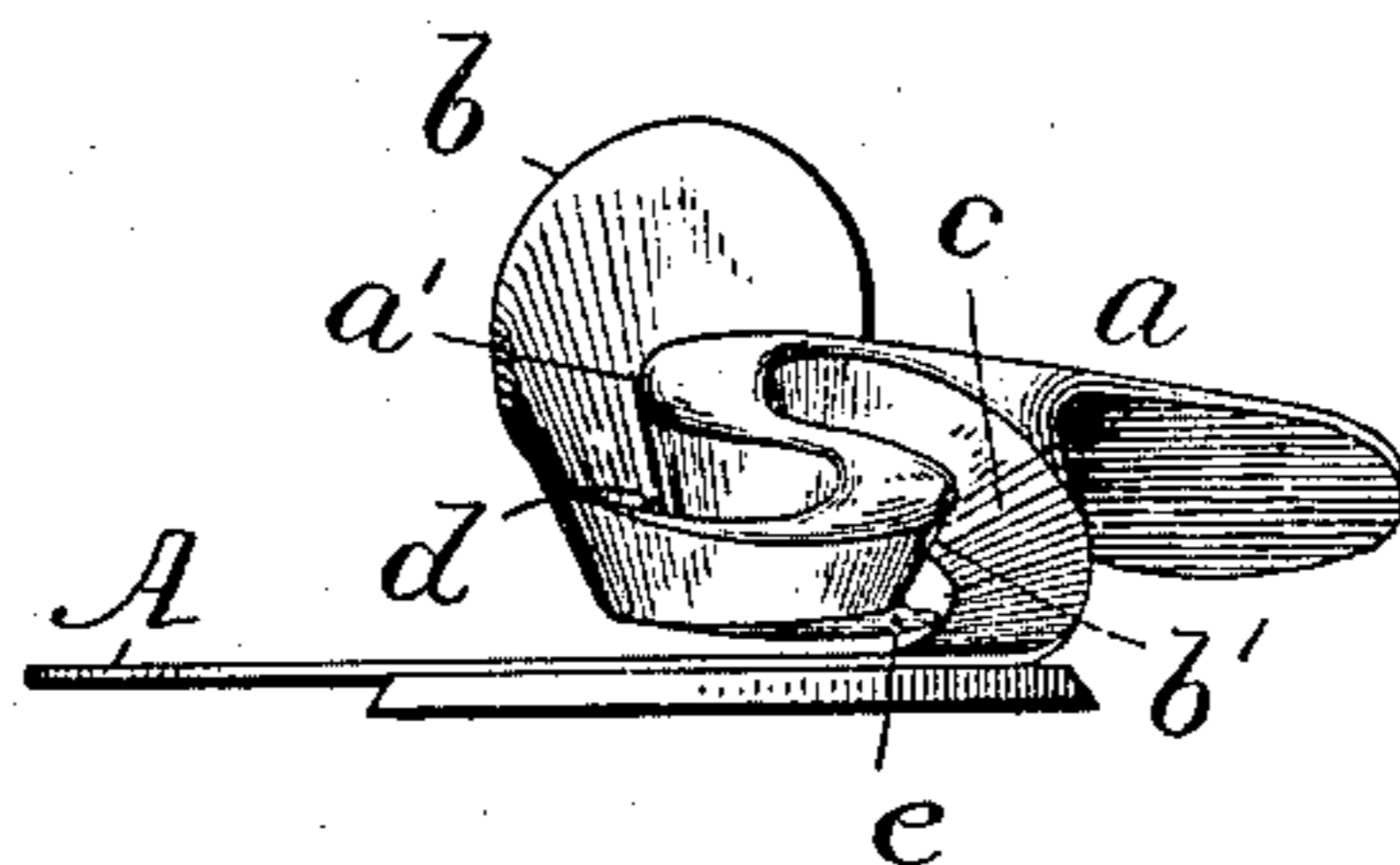
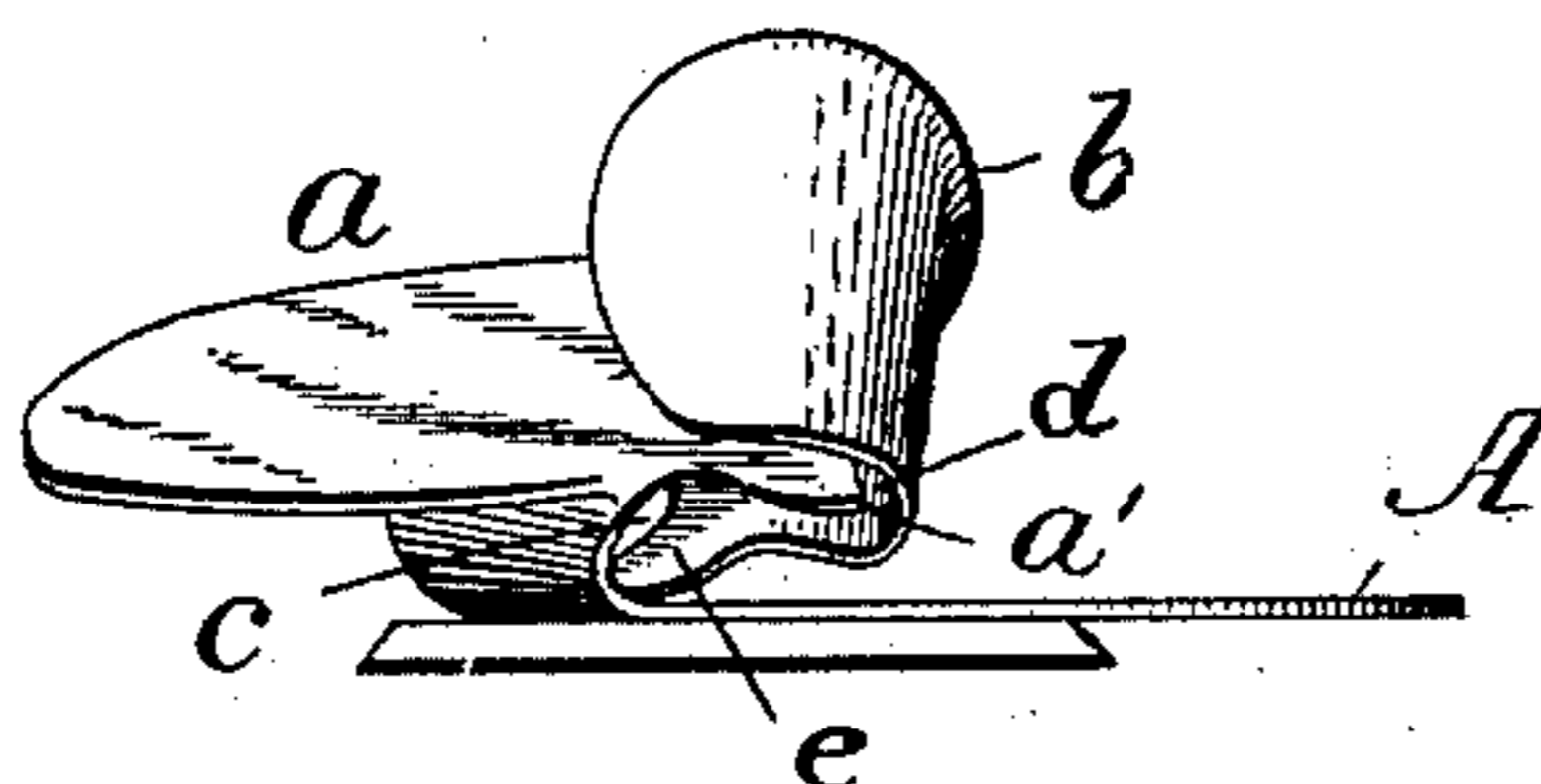


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## FELLER FOR SEWING-MACHINES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 656,427, dated August 21, 1900.

Application filed December 4, 1899. Serial No. 739,073. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES T. SHAW, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sewing-Machine Lap-Seam Fellers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

10 This invention relates to an improvement in lap-seam fellers, by means of which the lower or under fold of fabric will at the commencement of the seam be brought out fully to the desired lateral position to insure a perfect fold at the beginning of the work, and will at all times be held in such position during the formation of the seam, even when turning sharp curves, without any special care on the part of the attendant, and thus  
15 imperfect work in forming lap-seam fells, and which might otherwise result, will be avoided. To secure the improved result referred to, the lower folder of the improved feller is provided with a forwardly-projecting tongue extending beyond the main portion or body of the feller close to the needle of the machine and to a position in line with the forward end of the outer edge of the passage-way for the lower ply of fabric, or approximately so, and outside of the line of the seam formed by the right-hand needle when the feller is used (as is the common practice) on a two-needle sewing-machine. This forwardly-projecting tongue serves to distend  
25 the first part of the lower fold at the commencement of the lap-seam to its proper lateral position and to hold it there during the entire formation of the seam without special care by the attendant. Ordinarily the first few stitches have to be made with the machine running slowly, but with the improved feller the machine may commence to sew at high speed, thus saving considerable time, particularly when the seams are comparatively short.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of the improved feller, and Figs. 2 and 3 opposite end views thereof.

30 A denotes the base-plate of the feller, and which base-plate supports the wing *a*, around the inner edge *a'* of which the upper ply of

fabric is folded, the said wing *a* supporting the wing *b*, the inner edge *b'* of which serves as a folder for the lower ply of fabric, which rests on the plate A with its edge curled up in the passage-way *c* around the said edge *b'*, while the edge of the upper ply of fabric is curled down in the passage-way *d*.

The lower folder of the feller, consisting of the lower limb of the wing *b*, is provided with a forwardly-projecting tongue *e*, preferably curved outwardly, as shown in Fig. 1, and the forward end of which is in line, or approximately so, in the direction of the feed of the work with the forward end of the outer edge of the passage-way *c* for the lower ply of fabric. This forward end of the projecting tongue *e* extends close to the position of the right-hand needle *n* of a two-needle sewing-machine, with which the lap-seam feller is usually employed, the position of the left-hand needle of such machine being denoted at *n'*.

The improved feller may be provided with any suitable means for attachment to the work-plate of a sewing-machine, such means for attachment consisting in the present instance of the slide or cover *f*, similar to a shuttle-race slide, to which the base-plate A of the feller is soldered.

In the use of the attachment the work is inserted in the usual manner with the edges thereof curled around in the passage-ways *c* and *d*, so that they will preferably interhook or interlap when brought together in the final folds. With the work in such position the lower fold is completely hidden from the view of the attendant by the upper ply of fabric, so that ordinarily, unless special care be exercised, the lower fold will not be properly formed, as it is difficult, if not impossible, with lap-seam fellers as ordinarily constructed to commence the seam with the lower fold of fabric brought out square at its end, and there is, moreover, a constant tendency, particularly in turning sharp curves, for the lower fold to escape from its proper position; but this tendency, which unless special care be taken might result in imperfect work, is effectually counteracted by the forwardly-projecting tongue *e*, comprised by the present invention. As the upper fold is always in

sight, and is, moreover, not so much influenced by the feed, there is never any difficulty in keeping the upper ply of fabric in proper folding position, so that a forwardly-projecting tongue on the upper folder is not necessary.

Having thus described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

- 10 1. A lap-seam feller comprising upper and lower folders, the said lower folder being provided with an outwardly and forwardly projecting tongue, as *e*, extending beyond the main body of the feller so that its forward  
15 end will be close to one of the needles of a two-needle sewing-machine.

2. A lap-seam feller the lower folder of which is provided with a forwardly-projecting tongue, as *e*, extending beyond the main body of the feller so that its forward end will be close to one of the needles of a two-needle sewing-machine, the outer edge of said tongue being in line, or approximately so, in the direction of the feed of the work, with the outer edge of the forward end of the passage-way  
25 for the lower ply of fabric.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JAS. T. SHAW.

Witnesses:

HENRY J. MILLER,  
HAROLD W. BROWN.